



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 15, 2024



Crescent Hill
BAPTIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 15, 2024

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:45 AM

We gather to worship the Living God. In order to focus our hearts on this purpose, we ask that you silence all cell phones, alarm watches, and other electronic devices.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

INTROIT

Ding! Dong! Merrily on High
Chancel Ensemble; Louie Bailey, piano

French Carol
arr. John Leavitt

GREETING

Jordan S. Conley

THE WORK & WITNESS OF OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

If you are a guest at Crescent Hill, consider filling out one of our connection cards in the pew rack in front of you, or scanning the QR code on the back of your worship folder. We'll reach out to connect about our community, one that we'd love for you to be a part of.

ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: "Teacher," the crowd asked, "What should we do?"

All: If you have two shirts, give one away.

Live like we belong to one another.

Speak the truth.

Look for God.

Do the good that is yours to do.

One: Let us worship our present and active God.

SONG OF HOPE, PEACE & JOY

When God Is a Child

Joan Collier Fogg

Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.

Refrain: When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong.

And none shall be afraid.

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, giving a promise of safety and worth. **Refrain**

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn, telling the world that the Savior is born. **Refrain**

Brian Wren, 1989 in Bring Many Names

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY

Richardson-Cheng Family

*HYMN OF PRAISE 146

Joy to the World! The Lord is Come

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;
let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as,
far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glory of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders,
wonders of his love.

Isaac Watts, alt.

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What, then, should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Some Children See Him

Alfred Burt

Rusty Henle, tenor

Some children see Him lily white,
 the baby Jesus born this night.
 Some children see Him lily white,
 with tresses soft and fair.
 Some children see Him bronzed and brown,
 The Lord of heav'n to earth come down.
 Some children see Him bronzed and brown,
 with dark and heavy hair.

The children in each different place
 will see the baby Jesus' face
 like theirs, but bright with heavenly grace,
 and filled with holy light.
 O lay aside each earthly thing
 and with thy heart as offering,
 come worship now the infant King.
 'Tis love that's born tonight!

Wibla Hutson & Alfred S. Burt, 1951

Some children see Him almond-eyed,
 this Savior whom we kneel beside.
 some children see Him almond-eyed,
 with skin of yellow hue.
 Some children see Him dark as they,
 sweet Mary's Son to whom we pray.
 Some children see him dark as they,
 and, ah! they love Him, too!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Corrie Hammons

*HYMN OF SHARING

If I Have Two Coats

LYONS

If I have two coats, God calls me to share;
 There's someone nearby with no coat to wear.
 And if I don't know who that person might be,
 It's to a new friendship that God's calling me.
 If I have some bread — and soup, all the more —
 I'm called to reach out to someone who's poor.
 And if I don't know who that person might be,
 It's to a new table that God's calling me.

If money is mine, God calls me to live
 As someone who loves to generously give;
 And if I don't know someone suffering near me,
 It's to a new neighbor that God's calling me.
 O God of great truth, John's call to obey
 Prepared us for Christ, who shows us your Way.
 May we have the courage to try something new,
 To reach to new neighbors and so welcome you.

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2015

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

Doing the Good that is Ours to do

Jordan S. Conley

DISCIPLINE OF SILENCE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING OF OURSELVES, OUR TITHES, & OUR GIFTS

Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of Crescent Hill Baptist Church.

MUSICAL OFFERING

IN DULCI JUBILO (With Sweet Rejoicing)

Johann Sebastian Bach

*ADVENT DOXOLOGY

O Source of Joy, the Giver and the Gift

VENI EMMANUEL

O Source of Joy, the Giver and the Gift, with glad and gen'rous hearts we now uplift

Our voices in eternal praise, for all your gifts that crown our days.

O Lord, our God, our hearts to thee are bound to share your hope with people all around. Amen.

Louie Bailey, Advent 2012

*ADVENT PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jordan S. Conley

One: Holy One, this Advent season we wait in joy.

All: And we give in joy.

One: Joy for your coming reign;

All: Joy because of your presence with us even now.

One: Receive these generous offerings,

All: And use them for your work of healing and joy in our world. Amen.

*INVITATION TO RESPOND

Crescent Hill is a welcoming community of faith. We invite those seeking baptism for the first time, or those seeking to join our fellowship from another faith community to come forward during the Hymn of Response. Rather than a place of guilt, we invite you to come forward to claim your identity as the beloved of God united in beloved community. Welcome home.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 157

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO
Descant by Hal Hopson

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today,
Christ is born today!

Organ Interlude

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!

He hath opened heaven's door,
And we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this!

Organ Interlude

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Call you one and calls you all
To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save,
Christ was born to save!

Transl. by John Mason Neale, 1855

*BENEDICTION

Jordan S. Conley

POSTLUDE

Morning Reflections

Louie Bailey

*Worshippers are invited to rise, in body or spirit.

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- We invite those who wish to be baptized or join the church to share that decision with the church near the conclusion of worship. However, if you would prefer to explore baptism or church membership privately, the ministers would be glad to discuss those decisions with you following worship.

Today's Worship Leaders

In her core, **Anna Bowden** believes that the questions people ask of life and in faith shape the way they view and treat others. She has put this abiding conviction to action as Assistant Professor in New Testament at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. From this position she is helping the church at large and those who are pursuing a call to ministry hone their curiosities to facilitate a more generous view of faith, a more inclusive church, and a more just and equitable world. When not in the classroom, Anna will likely be spending time with her adoring dog, Shiner, and her spouse, Rev. Brent Bowden.

Corrie Hammons has been a member of Crescent Hill her whole life. She has spent several summers as a children's ministry intern, and has recently started a position at the Belle of Louisville. In her free time, Corrie enjoys playing music, reading, and playing with her border collie, Kenobi!

Chad Buck has been attending Crescent Hill since 2014. He moved to Louisville in 2012 to pursue a career as a public school science teacher; he currently teaches at Meade County High School. His wife, Kirsten, is a JCPS math teacher. When Chad is not at Crescent Hill on Sunday, he is attending Mass and listening to Kirsten sing at St. Brigid Catholic Church, where the two were married in 2019. He enjoys birdwatching, cycling, and hiking in Cherokee and Seneca Parks. He is also an avid fisherman who enjoys fishing in Kentucky, Alabama, and Michigan. Over the past several months, Chad has attended pickleball and Theology on Tap where he has gotten better acquainted with members of CHBC.

Staff Contacts

Rev. Jordan Conley

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Crescent Hill is an inclusive community of faith rooted in the Baptist tradition. We're a little different than other churches. We welcome all, regardless of race, age, creed, physical abilities, marital or economic status, gender identity, or sexual orientation. No matter where this day finds you, know that you are the beloved of God & there is space for you here...welcome home.



Find our live-stream online at *Crescent Hill Baptist Church*.



At most gatherings, an American Sign Language interpreter is at the front of the Sanctuary.

Our Partners in Ministry:



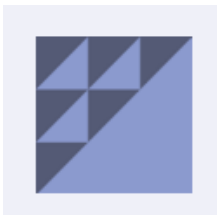
Advent

Words for the Beginning



**DEC
15**

**Advent III -- Joy
(10:45 AM)**



**DEC
22**

**Advent IV -- Love
(10:45 AM)**



**DEC
24**

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
(5:30 PM)**

The Church Office will close at 12 PM on December 24 and remain closed the rest of that week.

**There will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
on December 29**

- *Words for the Beginning theme and graphics adapted from A Sanctified Art | sanctifiedart.org.*



Our church family is amazing!!! **This year CHBC donations totaled over \$5500 to sponsor 36 children for the UCHM Christmas Connection!** CHBC is the largest donor to this fundraiser and it's all for children in our 40206 community. We increased our donations by over \$800. Well done CHBC! Blessings to all who helped make this possible and Merry Christmas to all! ---- *From Karen Scott.*



Poinsettias for Christmas Eve

Help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve by ordering a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one. Dedications will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Each plant costs \$13 and donors may take them home after the Christmas Eve service. Order forms are available in the church office. **Today is the last day to order your poinsettias!**

December

15

At the December Ministry Forum, the congregation was provided with a document outlining the Church Council's recommendation about Highland Latin School. Printed copies are available for members in the church office. If you want a digital copy of this document, please email Ann Cottone at ann@chbcky.org. Church Council will provide more details in the days ahead about a congregational vote to be held on a Sunday in January 2025.

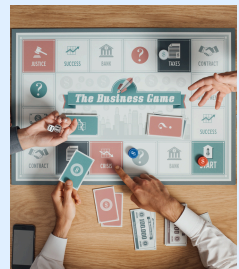
December

16

12:00 PM

Game Day

Roll the dice and practice your poker face for this month's game day! Meet in the parlor tomorrow, **December 16 at 12pm**. Be sure to bring your lunch and your favorite games!



Caroling on Frankfort Ave is Back!

Thursday 19th | Friday 20th

6:30 PM-7:30 PM



Singers of all ages and talent are invited to make a joyous noise! Gusto matters more than pitch. We start at **6:30 PM at the Birchwood entrance to Crescent Hill Baptist Church**. We sing in the commercial establishments with a mini-blast of holiday cheer. We sing for about an hour. Wear comfortable shoes and the good conversation along with way will warm your heart. We sing in the snow but not the rain. Words will be provided. Many of us will eat together afterwards. Contact Rowan Claypool if you have any questions (599-5061). We hope to see you there!

Kentucky Refugee Ministries Coat Drive

We are now collecting new or gently used coats, hats, mittens, coats, gloves, scarves, boots, etc. for Kentucky Refugee Ministries. There will be a donation box located in Birchwood Lobby. All coat sizes for all ages will be accepted. Donations will be collected throughout January. Thank you!



Little Free Pantry End-of-Year Adoptions

The following neighboring businesses have volunteered to adopt our CHBC Little Free Pantry!

If you can, stop by these local shops and say thanks!

Week of November 17

barre 3

Week of December 8

PARLOUR
PEOPLE • PIZZA • PINTS

Week of November 24

THE WINE RACK

Week of December 15

Margaret's
FINE CONSIGNMENTS

Week of December 29

LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Week of December 1

kiddo



Week of December 22

REDHOG

Weekly Prayer Concerns

We pray for Terry Pound; Rickey Geary-Bayman; Eugina Robertson; Margot McCall Lehocky; Jose Chipe; June Bailey; Jerry Smith; Dr. Glenn Hinson; CJ Phipps; Betty Schnur; Judy Hodge; and, Lolly Tucker. Also, Rickey Geary-Bayman's friend, Monnie Farmer; Lisa Howser and Patti Speck's stepfather, Merrill Smith; Ann Cottone's father, John Revel; Annie Hammon's niece, Nancy; Adrienne Eisenmenger's grandmother, Betty Gorham; Kat Goodman's friend, Danny Campbell; Kay Sanders' friend, Sharon Wilson; Joyce Deboe's friend, Phyllis; Joelle Pope; Jane Zupetz's husband, Charlie; and, Kay Sanders' aunt, Kakai. We pray for those in the southeast who have been impacted by Hurricane Helene. For those affected by the conflict in Palestine & Israel. We pray for our CBF Field Personnel: Rick & Ellen Burnette, Steve Clark & Annette Ellard and Scarlett Jasper. We pray for healthcare workers, as well as school personnel and students. We pray for those affected by gun violence in our city and nation.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

December 2024 Projected Budget Offerings: **\$38,333**

Total December Budget Offerings (includes online giving through 12/12): **\$32,874**

Total December 2024 Revenue (includes online giving through 12/12): **\$34,693**

2024 Pledged for 2025 Update: Total amount pledged: \$222,354 (Total pledges received: 31)

For Comparison:

Actual December 2023 Budget Offerings received: **\$37,498**

Total Revenue for December 2023: **\$70,284**

2023 Pledges for 2024: Total amount pledged: \$340,664 (Total pledges received: 63)

We're glad
you're here

If you are a guest with us today and would like to let us know a little more about yourself, please take a moment to scan the QR Code.

